Atty Docket No. JCLA7896-D

Serial No. 10/673,005

REMARKS

Present Status of Patent Application

Applicants respectfully submit that the Notice of Restriction Order has been carefully considered and hereby elects the species represented by Figure 5.

Further, the Examiner is respectfully informed that a Preliminary Amendment was filed on September 26, 2003, where the Cross-Reference To Related US Application Serial Number 10/050,081 filed on January 15, 2002 was inserted, and Claims 8-19 were canceled and Claims 20-24 were added.

Claims 1-7, 20-24 were previously pending, of which claims 2, 4-5, 21-22 and 24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the remaining claims 1, 3, 6-7, 20 and 23 are readable on the elected species represented by Figure 5. Examination of the elected claims is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Date: 10/4/2004

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Respectfully submitted, J.C. PATENTS

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